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24 January 1950

STAT

Thank you very much for the information contained in your letter of 18 January. Information, whether positive or negative, always is of considerable value to us.

Again, with thanks and best wishes, believe me,

Sincerely,

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R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

D:RHH:lec
Distribution:
Orig--addressee
1 cc--DCI
1 cc--Central Records
1 cc--AD/OSI w/ basic letter.

NOTE FOR RECORD: Basic states: At this time there is nothing in the way of specific information on Soviet developments in bacilli-carrying rockets which I have for transmission to you. A competent European scientist in a letter to me expresses his opinion as follows: "Despite everything I do not exclude the possibility of transporting living germs, or spores, in the way indicated. It is all a question of the time factor in propagation of heat across a set of media, separated by the very impermeable layers and vacua. Finally, it is a question of dimensions." I am interested to know whether any effort is being made to reactivate, or to establish on new foundations, a service similar to the wartime OSS. There is a crying need for it. The seriousness of this cannot possibly be exaggerated.